

REDAID TRIPLINE open maneuvers inside Russian borders. Actively noted at Adana, in western Turkey. British forces flown from Cyprus to demonstrate at the American consulate in Damascus. Baghdad re-

Lebanon Sent 'Ultimatum,' Forced U.S. Intervention

President's Report to Historic White House Parley

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WASHINGTON, July 17. — President Eisenhower informed the House of Representatives this week's historic conference that the United States was sending an ultimatum to Lebanon. To respond he told the Senate and the House would unquestionably have meant the collapse of the government "within 48 hours."

The president used the word "ultimatum" and asserted that the Lebanese had set a forty-hour deadline on the Beirut response. It was repeated and confirmed today by participants at the two-day session of Monday in the White House.

Reported by reliable intelligence was the fact that elements of the 6th Fleet had moved to positions in the Mediterranean well be-

fore the President summoned the Congressional leadership to the White House. The actual order covering the landing of Marines, however, was reportedly not issued until more than one hour after the meeting broke up just before 5 p. m.

Every Republican present at the Monday afternoon conference spoke out in strong support of the President's apparent, but not positively revealed, decision to order the Marines onto the Beirut beaches. But on the Democratic side, reservations were expressed by at least two Senators and leading questions came from others.

One of the latter was Sen. Richard B. Russell, D., Ga.

chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee. He asked the President whether the United States was prepared to carry out the full commitment that was implied in intervention and whether the armed services were prepared for the possibility of major war.

The President called on Gen. Nathan F. Twining, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, for an answer. Gen. Twining reportedly answered emphatically in the affirmative.

In retrospect, several who attended the meeting say now that they left the session with a distinct impression that Secretary of State John Foster

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Dulles had had a frank discussion with Dag Hammarskjöld, Secretary General of the United Nations, on possible United States action in the U. N. Mr. Dulles disclosed that he had talked with Mr. Hammarskjöld on Monday morning, only a few hours before the White House Congressional conference.

Fears Red Action

For this reason, specific steps to be taken at the U. N. were apparently not outlined to the leaders, and only a passing reference to the world organization was made, on the initiative of Sen. Mike Mansfield, D., Mont. In view of Mr. Hammarskjöld's attitude today, it would appear to be questionable how much he knew of the American U. N. plan.

Rep. Thomas E. Morgan, D., Pa., chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, asked whether the landing of Marines in Lebanon would open the back door for Russian "volunteers" to move across the Syrian border into Iraq. The reply was that such a possibility could not be ruled out.

Mr. Dulles was asked to elaborate on the "ultimatum" from President Chamoun. The Secretary did not go into details and was not pressed, but he stated that this country was under a moral commitment to aid the legitimate government of Lebanon.

Major Threat

President Eisenhower opened the discussion by stating that he had invited the leaders because the United States was confronted by a major threat to its security. That threat, he is reported to have continued, was not so much the fall of the Baghdad monarchy but the crisis that would inevitably follow in Lebanon if the United States did not act within forty-eight hours.

He then turned the meeting over to Allen W. Dulles, Central Intelligence Agency chief, who said the first he knew of the coup in Baghdad was a telephone call to his home at 2 a. m. Monday.

After both Allen Dulles and John Foster Dulles had completed their briefings, and several Republicans had spoken out in wholehearted support of what every one present knew would be the President's ultimate decision—that is, the landing of Marines—Mr. Eisenhower called on virtually every one else present, starting with Speaker Sam Rayburn, D., Tex., and Sen. William P. Knowland, R., Calif.

Sen. Knowland

It was Sen. Knowland who suggested that the President ask all present not to discuss the meeting, on grounds that premature disclosure might imperil American lives.

Rep. Rayburn quickly put in that he would simply say "we discussed the Middle East," and the President then asked all the others to do the same.

So tight was military security, imposed by the Pentagon, that apparently no one in Congress was officially or unofficially informed positively of the decision to intervene militarily until the Marines had landed the following morning.